

Military and Overseas Voting Cheat Sheet

	Military	Permanent Overseas	Temporary Overseas
What are they?	Member of the Uniformed Services or an activated National Guard member. They do not need to be actively deployed to be in the military.	Any U.S. Citizen who is living outside the U.S. and a.) their intent to return is uncertain or b.) they have never lived in the U.S.	Any U.S. Citizen who is living outside the U.S., but has intent to return.
What ballot do I send?	Full ballot	Federal Only (This ballot is NOT Presidential Only. Congress and Senate races are included on Federal Only ballots).	Full ballot
I have to email the ballot, what do I include? Faxing and emailing instructions here .	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Full ballot – scanned with your initials 2. Uniform Instructions – Email and Faxed 3. EL-122 for Military and Overseas Voters 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Federal Only ballot – scanned with your initials 2. Uniform Instructions – Email and Faxed 3. EL-122 for Military and Overseas Voters 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Full ballot – scanned with your initials 2. Uniform Instructions – Email and Faxed 3. EL-122 for Military and Overseas Voters
Do they have to register to vote?	No	Yes	Yes
How can they register to vote?	They don't need to register.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EL-131 WI Voter Registration Application 2. Federal Postcard Application (FPCA) <p>All forms MUST be mailed.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EL-131 WI Voter Registration Application 2. MyVote.wi.gov with a valid WI Driver License or ID 3. Federal Postcard Application (FPCA) <p>All forms MUST be mailed.</p>
Do they have to provide a photo ID to get an absentee ballot?	No	No	Yes
How can they request an absentee ballot?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Online at MyVote.wi.gov 2. Email (or fax) 3. By Mail using the EL-121 WI Absentee Request 4. Federal Postcard Application (FPCA) 5. Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Online at MyVote.wi.gov 2. Email (or fax) 3. By Mail using the EL-121 WI Absentee Request 4. Federal Postcard Application (FPCA) <p>Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Online at MyVote.wi.gov 2. Email (or fax) 3. By Mail using the EL-121 WI Absentee Request 4. Federal Postcard Application (FPCA) <p>Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB)</p>
How can they receive an absentee ballot?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Email 2. Fax 3. Online (they will get an email automatically by the Wisconsin Elections Commission) 4. By Mail 5. In Person 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Email 2. Fax 3. Online (they will get an email automatically by the Wisconsin Elections Commission) 4. By Mail 5. In Person 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Email 2. Fax 3. By Mail 4. In Person
How can they return an absentee ballot?	By Mail or In Person	By Mail or In Person	By Mail or In Person
When are the deadline to request an absentee ballot?	Military voters not on active duty: Friday before the election. Military voter on active duty: Election Day by 5pm.	Thursday before the election (unless indefinitely confined, see below for details).	Thursday before the election (unless indefinitely confined, see below for details).

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I got a FWAB. What do I do?

A: The FWAB can serve as an absentee request and an absentee ballot. The write-in absentee ballot will likely be in a separate envelope inside the main envelope. DO NOT OPEN THIS ENVELOPE and send out the full ballot to the voter as soon as possible. If it does not come in a separate envelope, put it in a separate envelope (this is not a reason to reject). Please preserve this and the FWAB form with the witness signature (if needed) until Election Day and if the full ballot arrives, you will reject the write-in ballot. If the full ballot does not arrive, you will remake the write-in ballot so it can be counted. Please see more information here: <https://elections.wi.gov/resources/brochures/fwab-tips-clerks>.

Q: I got an FPCA. What do I do?

A: The FPCA can serve as a voter registration and an absentee request. You will process this similarly to any other registration or absentee request. Please note that if using as a registration form, the original must be mailed or dropped off to the clerk. Please see more information here: <https://elections.wi.gov/resources/brochures/fpca-tips-clerks>.

Q: I know they're not in the military, they live at home. Should I change their status?

A: You may confirm with the voter that they are still in the military, but you do not need to. However, do not delay mailing the voter a ballot while waiting for confirmation. Please keep in mind that the voter could still be living at home and be in the military.

Q: They're not active duty, do I still have to use the military envelope?

A: Yes, you should still use the postage-free military front side of the envelope to the military voter.

Q: On the FPCA, the voter waived their right to privacy so they can email their ballot back. Can they send their ballot back by email?

A: No, a voter can never return their ballot by email. They must deliver it by mail or in person. The FPCA and FWAB are federal forms that are designed to be universally used. Some other states allow voters to email their ballot back.

Q: They accidentally registered as a military or overseas voter. What should I do?

A: If this was a typo on behalf of the clerk, this can be updated easily by the clerk on WisVote. Please note that both the voter type in the voter registration record AND the application type in the absentee request must be updated. If the voter mistakenly checked something, they should confirm in writing that this is a mistake and then you may update this on WisVote.

Q: The voter is no longer in the military or permanently overseas. How do I change this?

A: The voter must re-register with their correct voter type and updated information.

Q: On the FPCA or FWAB, they said they want their ballot delivered "online/email"? How should I send the ballot?

A: If a Military or Permanently Overseas voter asks to receive their ballot by "Email/Online," contact the voter to see if they would like to receive their ballot by email or online, but do not choose for the voter. If the voter does not respond within one business day, email the voter their ballot. If the voter did not provide an email address, mail the voter a ballot. If the voter asks to get their ballot online, then point the voter to myvote.wi.gov so that they may initiate their request online. Please do not enter the online absentee application into WisVote for the voter.

Q: Can a military or overseas voter also be indefinitely confined?

A: A voter can be both indefinitely confined and military. People with disabilities or illnesses can still be in the military and it is possible that this may be a family member.